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SUBJECT Organization and Functions of the Lien Viet
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. In accordance with standard Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) organization, the Lien Viet Committee of Nghe An Province consists of:
 - a. Two delegates from each people's organization. Thus there are delegates from the following groups: Youth (Thanh Nien Cuu Quoc), Old People (Phu Lao Cuu Quoc), Laborers (Nong Dan Cuu Quoc), Soldiers' Mothers (Nguoi Me Chien Si), the Labor Party (Lao Dong), the Democratic Party (Dang Dan Chu) and others. The Buddhists (Phat Giao) sent delegates to the Lien Viet for the first time in late 1951. The Catholics (Cong Giao) of Nghe An have never sent delegates.
 - b. One delegate from each district (phu or huyen).
 - c. One delegate from each ethnical minority group.
2. In Nghe An Province the Lien Viet Committee consists of 32 members, including a President and six Vice-Presidents. The Committee meets once every three months, to review the activities of the past three months and draw up an action program for the following three months.
3. However, actual control over all Lien Viet affairs in Nghe An is exercised by a Permanent Committee consisting of six persons who are paid by the DRV Government. This Permanent Committee is composed of the following persons:

President	To Te My, a Communist sympathizer.
Vice-Presidents	Ta Van Dat Nguyen Truong Khoat, a Communist.

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Members

Mrs. Tran Van Cung, a Communist, member of the DRV National Assembly.

Le Xuan Khuong, a Communist.

Le Huy Ung, a Communist.

4. As in other provinces, the Permanent Committee moves constantly and does not have a fixed headquarters. It is usually in the same region as the Provincial Administrative and Resistance Committee. The Permanent Committee is now at Lang Si, Phu Dien Chau (105-35; 18-59), and the Administrative and Resistance Committee is only two kilometers away. Displacements of the Permanent Lien Viet Committee are followed by the provincial committees of all the peoples' organizations.
5. The Lien Viet is most important at the provincial and village echelons. At the district and Interzone levels its function is simply to serve as intermediary between higher and lower echelons.
6. At the district level, there is a Lien Viet Committee of nine members, and a Permanent Lien Viet Committee of three members: President, Vice-President, and Secretary-General. These three officials are paid by the Government.
7. At the village level there is a Lien Viet Committee composed of three men: President, Vice-President, and Secretary, all paid by the Government.
8. The essential function of the Lien Viet is to serve as intermediary between the authorities and the people. For propaganda purposes, the DRV emphasizes that the people can criticize the authorities through the Lien Viet. In fact, however, the Lien Viet is an extremely effective instrument for implementing Government directives. When directives such as the mobilization of civilian laborers for public works (Dan Cong) are received from the Administrative and Resistance Committee, the Lien Viet Committee is responsible - through the people's organizations which constitute it - for preparing public opinion and insuring public support. To do this, the Lien Viet makes extensive use of propaganda, discussion groups, lectures justifying the new directive, and other measures.
9. In this way the Lien Viet often succeeds in making a Government decree appear to derive from and express the will of the people. At Lien Viet committee meetings, decisions are taken only after a vote. Members of the Committees are free to express their opinions, and debate is often intense. In the end, however, the Communist majority always wins the day and the will of the authorities is always done. A recent example is the agricultural tax (Thuc Nong Nghiep), the collection of which has been principally the responsibility of the Lien Viet.

Lao Dong Party

10. The Lao Dong Party functions very discreetly. The only official manifestation of this party in Nghe An Province occurred on 10 July 1951, when the Provincial Committee was announced. This committee consists of Le Huy Diep as Secretary-General, and Nguyen Truong Khoat and Pham Chieu as delegates. The organization of the Lao Dong Party does not extend beneath the provincial echelon: it has no committees on the district or village levels.

Administrative and Resistance Committee

11. The Administrative and Resistance Committee of Nghe An Province consists of the following individuals:

President	Le Nhu
Vice-President	Nguyen Truong Khoat, youth leader.
Members	Nguyen Ho
	Nguyen Duc Thi

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Pham Thanh Vinh, former President of the Association of Vietnamese Students, former Cabinet Director to Phan Anh, non-Communist DRV Minister of Economy.

Interaction of DRV Organizations

12. Relations between the various DRV administrative organizations, as they operate throughout the DRV zone, can be conceived as follows:
- a. The Central Committee of the Lao Dong Party prepares general directives, based on reports received from the Provincial Lao Dong Party committees and from the members of the Lao Dong Party who hold positions in the DRV Government.
 - b. These general directives are presented to the DRV Government, which transforms them into detailed projects.
 - c. These projects are then transmitted to the Lien Viet for execution. However, the Lao Dong Party closely follows and in fact controls the execution of the projects through its members on committees at all echelons of the administration.

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